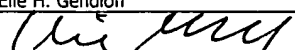


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/541,520 Confirmation No. 2010  
 Applicants : Edward R. Burns, John C. McKittrick, and Ding Wen Wu  
 Filed : January 8, 2004 (International filing date)  
 Docket No. : 96700/1029  
 Customer No. : 1912

"Express Mail" mailing label No.	EV 725787021 US
Date of Deposit:	May 11, 2006
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
Name:	Elie H. Gendloff
Signature:	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO NOTIFICATION OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)

Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment and Reply is in response to the Notification of Missing Requirements Under 35 U.S.C. 371 in the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) dated February 17, 2006 in the above-identified patent application. Applicants also request a one-month extension of time for this Preliminary Amendment and Reply, and enclose the \$60.00 fee for the extension of time with the enclosed check. With that extension of time, this Preliminary Amendment and Reply is due May 17, 2006 and is timely filed.

05/19/2006 LLANDGRA 00000054 10541520

01 FC:2251

60.00 DP

Oath or Declaration

Applicants enclose a Declaration of the inventors, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.497(a) and (b).

Appl. No. 10,541,520

Amdt. dated May 11, 2006

Reply to Notification of Missing Requirements dated February 17, 2006

Information Disclosure Statement

Enclosed herewith are Forms PTO/SB/08A (1 page) and PTO/SB/08B (1 page) and copies of the 4 non-US patent references listed on Form PTO/SB/08B.

Amendments

Please enter the following amendments before calculating the claim fees.